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SALUTATION OF TRUE LOVE

TO ALL *K Fisher (a)*
Faithful Friends, Brethren and Sisters,
IN THE
Fellowship of the Blessed Truth.

WITH
An Addition of Tender Love to all
younger convinced Friends, in and
about London, &c.

ALSO
A Few words of Advice to the Children of Believing
and Faithful Parents.

LONDON,
Printed for **Thomas Norchcott**, in
George-Yard, in Lumbard-street, 1690.

A
SALUTATION

TO

TRUE



Friendship, Brother and Sisters

IN THE

Teaching of the Sacred Scriptures

WITH

An Addition of Tender Love to all
Younger convinced Friends in and
about London, &c.

ALSO

A Few words of Advice to the Children of Believing
and Tender Parents.

LONDON,

Printed for Thomas Chesterton, in
George-Street, in Lombard-Street, 1897.

**TO THE
READER**

Dear Friends

Remembering the good **Householder** that brought forth out of his **Treasury**, Things both New and Old; I am made willing to Communicate this following Salutation, which was written some Time since, chiefly to my **Elder Faithful Brethren and Sisters**: But meeting with various Exercises, in which Time the Enemy was not wanting to discourage me, I laid it by. But now feeling the Renewings of the Love of God towards you, and a fresh Stream of Love and Life from the same Fountain, running in my Soul, and opening my Heart

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towards

towards my Younger Convinced Friends,
I now after this Salutation to you, commit
what follows to their serious Reading and
Consideration; who am, and trust in God,
shall Remain in true Love, your Friend,
and their Fellow-Traveller, till I may
arrive at my desired Rest, which is to
lay down my Head in Peace with the
Lord.

A. F. Old; I am made willing to Communicate
this following Salutation, which was
written some Time since, chiefly to my
~~Elder Faithful Brethren and Sisters: But~~
meeting with various Exercises, in which
Time the Enemy was not wanting to dis-
courage me, I ~~did not~~ But now feel-
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towards

A
SALUTATION
OF
TRUE LOVE.

TO you my Dear and Well-beloved Friends,
Faithful Brethren and Sisters, whom my
Soul feels a Uniting to, in the Spirit of
the Living God, which hath quickned
and made you a living People; who once were Dead
as well as others; but through the Riches of the
Love of God in the Revelation of his Son Christ
Jesus, are made alive to Praise him; whose gather-
ing Arm hath been made bare for our Salvation,
and Preservation from under Satan's Thralldom, in
which we were held by his dark Power, which did
bear Rule, and Captivate our Minds, insomuch,
that many were Slaves, till the Lord was pleased
to reach forth the Hand of his Divine Love, and
make known the Right Arm of his Heavenly Pow-
er to gather us, who with his Shepherds Crook did
reach unto us, and found us out; by which, he
hath brought many near unto himself, and they are
his Elect, and Precious in his Sight, to whom he

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hath and will Reveal his blessed Mind and Will ;
and for whom, he hath, and will yet arise to plead
with all that shall Combine against him, or those
whom he hath called for a Purpose of his own Glory,
by whom he hath, and doth yet intend through the
work of his Spirit, to shew forth his excellent
Name, which is as Precious Ointment to them, who
through the Vertue thereof, have smelt the good
Savour which many shall yet greatly desire: For
the Lord that hath begun a *Work of Reformation*,
will yet go on to a further perfecting the same in
this our Age ; and many have been the Visitations
of the Long-suffering God, who hath, and will yet
come in, and with the Sanctified, to Judge and Con-
demn the Unsanctified, and especially those that
have professed his worthy Name, but have lived in
that which hath dishonoured, and caused it to be
Evil-spoken of by those who know it not ; but la-
mentable is their Case, except they Repent and
Turn to the Lord with their whole Hearts, that
have been Convinced of the Truth, and in some
Measure know the working of that Power, which
is alone sufficient to Convert and work a Change,
as it is yielded to, through the Lively Operation
thereof, which works by Love in the Hearts of all
that sincerely desire to be Translated from Death
to Life, that they may be as Living Monu-
ments of the Mercies of God, which to the
Praise of his Name be it spoken, many are.

And these are they to whom the Lord hath, and is
spreading his Table with many Delicates, and they
know the Mansion-house where their Bread is sure,
and their Water never fails ; Come Eat with me this
day my well beloved, and drink of the Wine of

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the Kingdom, for it is new and newly poured forth,
through the Flagons of God's Love to you who are
indwellers where his mercy Seat you have beheld,
and where you can approach, Before the Throne of
his heavenly Grace, and where his honourable Pre-
sence you do behold when the Light of his Coun-
tenance is lifted up upon you: O then, his Love you
feel as a strong Cord which draws you to love
him again, and you are the espoused to Christ, who
can say, *in truth he is my Beloved, and I am his*; you
feel his blessing to light upon you, as the Dew
which causes you to grow, and you are as the Gar-
den of God which he delights to dress and prune, and
much Labour hath the Lord bestowed on you,
whose love is felt at this time as the small Rain
descending on every Plant, that his Right hand hath
planted, that they may grow in their Season as the
Summer Fruits which are beautiful to behold.
Friends, my Soul is greatly affected with what the
Lord hath done, and is doing for a People that are
willing to be the Workmanship of his hands, whose
sincere Cry is to the Lord, not only to know his Will
which is the Sanctification of his People, but also to
know the word of his Power, which is as a Hammer
and as a fire to beat down and burn up all the Com-
bustible matter; and you are they that have and are
coming thus to know the Travel of your Souls
through an holy Subjection to the Mind and Will of
God, that he will and doth stand by, and secretly
make way for through all outward and inward Op-
position; but to such who may not be so nearly ga-
thered, this Exhortation springs from the Root of
true Love; Resist to the Lord and draw near to
him who hath promised he will draw near to you;

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and Christ said, *They that come unto me I will in no ways cast off*; Blessed be the Lord there are many witnesses, therefore let all be encouraged, he is faithful who hath promised; many can seal to the Testimony whom he hath made partakers of the Benefits thereof, and they have reapt great Advantage by coming unto him; yea when they were wearied and heavy laden with divers sins, then was his hand stretched out to undo the heavy Burthen, and that was a sign of Love, the remembrance of which bows my Soul before the great God, whose Love I feel, and the large extending thereof, reaching to all, and many shall be visited who have not yet felt God's quickning Power, to raise their Souls from that Sleep of Death, which Satan hath lull'd them into through harkning unto him, and disobeying the Command of the great God; but my Friends, I know the dealing of the Lord to you, who are awakened and raised from Death to Life is as a strong Obligation on your Spirits to walk in the Light of the Lord, where the Morning of God's Day was known to dawn, and the Sun to rise, that hath shined unto the Noon-day, by which your hearts have been warmed, and your Spirits sweetly comforted, in the sense of which my Soul doth bless the Lord, that he hath opened mine Eyes to behold the appearance of this day, in which the glorious Splendour and Beams of the Sun of Righteousness hath so greatly shined, and shall yet to many who yet set under the Region and shadow of Death; notwithstanding the secret and open workings of the Enemy of man's Soul, whose work is to darken the Mind, and bring a Cloud as a Veil over the Understandings of People, that they may not see the Light of the glorious

glorious Gospel, that hath and shall shine through them, who faithfully walk in the Light of this everlasting day in which the Sun shall never set; for as the Lord hath been at work, so he will work, and none shall be able to hinder his determined Will, which is to exalt his Son; who said of himself, *I am the Way, the Truth, the Life and the Light*; he also said, *he that believeth in me shall not abide in darkness, but shall have the Light of Life*; and you are they that do witness the Truth of that saying, whom the Lord hath made partaker of such like precious Faith, which he hath bestowed upon you, and it is not in vain must my Soul with yours acknowledge being made a partaker in some degree of the saving Vertue that is in it, to the Praise of the Lord's worthy Name, be it spoken, who hath bestowed it on us, for my heart is filled, and with the abounding thereof doth my Cup overflow, and run as a Salutation to you my well beloved Friends, faithful Brethren and Sisters, in that relation which the Spirit of God hath brought us into through the indwelling Power thereof; even all you that were born of that Royal Seed which is the Offspring of *David*, to you the Root of *Jesse* is sprung up in this our day: High praises to the Honourable worthy Name of the great God, I know is given by all you who do know the branches of it overspreading the Earth in your hearts; you are of that Number of whom it was spoken, *they that touch the Elect, touch the Apple of God's Eye*, what can be nearer or sooner felt? O the Love of God as the Bowels of a tender Father, you have known to succour and relieve, to save and deliver; he is the same this day as ever, and changes not.

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I know you have had large Experience, even you that have walked the heavenly Progress, and run in the Race with Patience which was set before you, and are coming towards an End of your Travels, which hath been through many Difficulties, for many Troubles have been the Portion of of the Righteous; may I not say as on your behalf, whom the Lord did call in the breaking forth of this glorious Day, the Light of which now shines in the hearts of many, to whom you have been publishers to proclaim the sound of the Everlasting Gospel, to which the Ears of many have been opened, and their hearts ready to receive the glad Tidings of Peace, for which my Soul is greatly engaged to bless the Lord, that I was one of that Number to which the sound hath reached: Therefore dear Friends for a farther Confirmation, believing you have had many, that your faithful Labours and Travels in the Work of the Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, hath not been in vain; for I am obliged to acknowledge to the benefit, that I with many more whom I know, have with me been made partakers of the same consoling, refreshing, strengthening Vertue which the Lord hath through you communicated unto us, who as good Stewards of the manifold Grace of God have distributed to the poor in Spirit; who through believing and receiving the Grace of God are made rich in Faith, and Heirs of that Kingdom that shall never have an End: O the Joy of God's Salvation, the Comfort and Consolation you know who have travelled through, and are gone before by the Assistance of the heavenly Power, and blessed Spirit of the living God, which

is one in all the faithful, who truly come to know their Minds and Wills rightly subjected to it, and that come to be led and guided by it; such know the Efficacy and Vertue of it, to lead and guide them into Truth, and from all Untruth, and such are they that adorn the Gospel, and these alone are Preachers of Truth and Righteousness, who are taught and learned of him, who never guile was found in his Mouth. O the Righteous holy Principle of Life, what a Beauty doth mine Eyes behold in it, how comely are you who have kept your first Love to it, and have not made shipwreck of Faith, but have this day the Answer of a good Conscience towards God and all Men! Friends, the sense of your everlasting Joy and endless Felicity, when the Lord shall remove you out of these earthly Tabernacles and Houses of Clay, begets a fervent desire in me, that we who are as the younger begotten, but brought forth by the same Arm and mighty Power of God, and have hitherto been brought up, and nourished by the same Milk of the Word, may grow thereby from strength to strength, till we come to the Stature and fulness of a Man in Christ, and that the hindmost of the Flock may come up, and follow in the Foot-steps of you that are gone before in that straight and narrow Way which leads to Life, that hereby we may come to be enriched with the same heavenly Treasure; and though younger begotten yet as right Heirs may come to have a part and share in that Joy, which is unspeakable, and full of Glory; Now my honourable esteemed Fathers, and Elders, faithful Brethren and Sisters in that Life, that shall outlive Death, and the Power of it; and in true Love

do I salute you all whom the Lord hath called, and made choice of to promote Truth, and Righteousness in the Earth; though many are your Gainers, the Truth is that which the Lord will secretly make way forthrough all Opposition: Blessed and magnified over and through all be his Almighty Power, which is at work this day for the furtherance of it; for which Cause the faithful have great Cause to be encouraged to go on, in the strength of the Lord, who will turn and overturn till he come to Reign, whose Right it is, in the Hearts of the Children of Men,

*From a younger Sister, but one that desires to
be a faithful Follower of the Flock of God,*

A. F.

*A Visitation of Tender Love, as I felt
it Running in a fresh Stream of Life
to you my Friends, who are younger
convinced in and about London.*

DEAR Friends, Brethren and Sisters, whom I love in the Lord; and desire well for, as for my own Soul, that you may all grow in Grace, and in the Knowledge of God; whom to rightly know is Life Eternal; the Testimony of which, hath been often sounded in your Ears through many worthy Antients, whom the Lord by his immediate Power hath fitted for the Publishing his Truth, and Informing you of the blessed Way of Life and Salva-

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tion in this our Age : Blessed be his Name, his Fame hath spread, and shall to the Ends of the Earth ; He is the same God this Day, as ever, his Power is not lessened, neither is his Arm shortned, but his Voice is still uttered, and his Call is, *Come look unto me all ye Ends of the Earth, and be ye saved, who saves his People from Sin, that they may be Workers of Righteousness* ; He saith, *I am God, and there is no other* ; He is a jealous God, and jealous of his Glory ; therefore see to it all you who have heard his Call, which I doubt not but many must acknowledge too ; therefore this is with me in the Love of God, to you who have heard, but not yet obeyed the Call of the Lord, which is, *Come and be saved* ; a worthy Call indeed, and worthy of all Acceptation for your Encouragement, that thereby you may come to forsake and deny those things which the Call hath been to you, to come out of, or depart from either, immediately, by his Spirit in your Hearts, or Instrumentally, through any faithful Servant, by the Conducts of it ; for his Call hath gone long forth, and his Alarming Trumpet hath been long sounded, and is this Day ; Arise thou that sleepest, and come to Judgment ; for *STON* must be Redeemed through Judgment, and all her Converts, with and by that Righteous Principle of Light and Life, by and through which, the Spirit of God's Love and Free Grace hath been, and yet is so largely Extended to and amongst you, that now you may not only hear, but believe and obey the Gospel of our Lord, and come to know him to be your Saviour, and to have your Spiritual Eyes so opened, as to behold your Teacher, which you have often heard, can-

not be removed into a Corner ; for that is the good End of the Lord, in visiting you who have had a large Day in this City ; therefore, now that you may come to know the Work of Salvation, by a thorough Separation from all that which draws the Mind into Vanity from God, that thereby you may be the saved of the Lord, and of that number which may come to Mount *SION* with Songs of Deliverance, and enter into that Joy which all the faithful (who hide not their Talent in that Earthly Mind, which leads to a Carnal Liberty and Fleishly Ease,) shall enter into ; therefore, whilst the Day of God's tender Visitation, in the Riches of his long forbearing Love doth last, and whilst he is yet striving by his Spirit, harken and give Ear what the Spirit saith, which hath and doth say, *Come, and all that will come may come ;* therefore, what Excuses will any make, who have had so much, or many Invitations of the Love of God ? who hath also said, *My Spirit shall not always strive with Man :* Therefore, let none harden their Hearts, or stiffen their Necks against the Way of the Lord, which is as sure this Day, as ever, as Righteous and Holy, as ever, and they that walk in it, must deny themselves of all the contrary, as much as ever ; and blessed be the Lord, this is not the Day in which the Lord will say to such, *My People perish for want of Knowledge ;* therefore, let all take heed of the greater Condemnation : *He that knows his Masters Will, and doth it not, shall be beaten with many Stripes.*

Dear Friends, In the tendering begetting Love of our God, is my Heart opened to you who are the Younger convinced amongst us, for whom my Spirit,

Spirit, with many more, hath been, and is truly concerned with many Desires to the Lord on your behalf, that as you have heard the Truth, and been Educated in the Truth, you may also receive the Truth in the Love of it, and come to be led and guided by it, into the Self-denying Way of it, to take up the Cross, and bear the Yoke in your Youth, that thereby you may come to wear the Crown of Faithfulness in your Riper Years: For it is the same this Day as ever. *If you die not the Death of the Righteous, you cannot expect to be made Heirs of Everlasting Life*; therefore it behoves all to be concerned, and consider what Spirit they are sowing to; if to the Flesh and carnal Desires, of that you will certainly reap Corruption; but if to the Spirit, Life Everlasting; *for to be spiritually minded is Life and Peace*: Blessed be the Lord, there are many Witnesses of it, and now that there may be many more of those who have heard it born Witness to; for the Lord hath caused many to rise early, and go forth late to Preach the Everlasting Gospel amongst you, which is glad Tidings of Peace to all that believe and obey the Gospel; but to such who do not obey, what Tidings doth it bring to your Houses? O! Harken and again hear what the Spirit saith, you have been often directed to it, and it is the Inspiration of the Holy Spirit of God must give you a right Understanding of these things that differ from it, whatever you may hear by those who have had large Experience of the Way and Work of the Lord, which will be your great Condemnation if you walk not in it; but blessed be the Lord, there is a living Hope in that Faith which stands in the

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the Power of God, that many will yet be awakened unto Righteousness, and stirred up to walk in that blessed Way and Path of the Just, which is a shining Light, and will shine in them more and more, till the perfect Day; for the Sun of Righteousness is risen, and his splendorous Beams are seen, yea, many have, and yet shall behold the Glory and Beauty that is in him, and be made Partakers of that healing Virtue which proceeds from him; therefore, all press forward through the Throng of all that which you find to oppose in your Hearts, that by Faith you may come to touch the Hem of his Garment, by which the Precious Virtue of his Life you may know conveyed to your immortal Souls. Dear Friends, the Lord is on his way, therefore be ye followers of him; why should any stay behind, and miss such great Salvation as is offered in this our Day? Friends, be concerned and seek the Lord, that you may be found of him, and find him to be your exceeding great Reward, for he is a rewarder of all them that diligently seek after him, and blessed be the Lord there is a Remnant that have sought, but not in vain; yea, many faithful and living Testimonies have you heard of the same, therefore is my Heart still in the Love of God drawn to remind you, that you come to be experimental Witnesses; the Lord many of you know, and the Truth you know, therefore travel on and go forward in the Foot-steps of the Flock of God who are gone before, and many are entered into that Holy City, the Gates of which stand open to receive all who are truly poor in spirit, for they shall inherit the Kingdom of Heaven,

Which

*Which is a Place of great Felicity,
Believe it you, and then come all and see,
Where Joy and Comfort endless doth abound,
To all unfeigned hearts whose Love is sound;
And travel on as Caleb, Joshua did,
Men of excellent Spirits, as you all may read.
And this I also do you farther tell,
There is great Happiness in doing well.
The benefit of which you'll surely find,
If cross you do all vain things in your mind;
The Principle of Light and Truth is see
In thy Heart, Man, and doth it often check.
But this is a great Misery in our day;
Some hate Counsell, and thrust Truths check away,
But I desire that none of you so do,
To whom these following Lines do yet ensue.*

You who are the Children and Off-spring, yea, I may say, the natural Branches of such who have been grafted into the true Vine; to many of you the Love of God still reaches, that you may come to know a being grafted in also, and that you may receive Sap and Nourishment from the Root Christ Jesus, that thereby you may come to grow fresh and green, remembering the Willows by the Water-courses, you having been often watered as with the Dew from Heaven, that now you may not be as fruitless Branches, that the Lord may not have cause to cut off any natural Branch; but as you are Children, and Heirs of these Earthly things, which the Lord hath blessed many of your Parents with; that now you may not only therewith be content, but fervently desire to be made Heirs, and Possessors of that heavenly Treasure,

fure, and durable Riches which the Lord hath also
 enriched them with, that you may not be only Chil-
 dren of the Fleſh, but come to know a Being born of
 the Spirit, or that Spiritual Birth brought forth in
 you, which is Heir of everlaſting Life; that when
 your Parents ſhall be called to leave theſe earthly Ta-
 bernacles, or Houſes of Clay, to poſſeſs an Houſe
 not made with hands, but Eternal in the Hea-
 vens, which many are already called to, then,
 as you come to poſſeſs and enjoy their Subſtance;
 here you may alſo be following them in that
 ſtraight and narrow way, which will lead, and
 bring you to that ſame purchaſed Poſſeſſion, and
 everlaſting Inheritance when Time in this World ſhall
 be no more; that as the Lord hath been honoured,
 his Power magnified, and Truth exalted by many
 who have been as a kind of firſt Fruits, to the Praise
 of the Lord be it ſpoke, that now you who are as
 a following Generation, may be as a ſecond Spring
 on the ſame Ground, whole freſhneſs and greenneſs
 may ſo appear, as that you may be Inviters and En-
 couragers of others to come and feed on the ſame
 Paſture; the Lord being your Shepherd, you may be
 able to ſay, *we ſhall not want*, having your Faith in
 him, and Hearts fixed upon him, that in all things
 your Eyes may be to him, and to the Honour of his
 great Name, which hath been as precious Ointment
 often poured forth amongſt you; the Savour of
 which hath cauſed many to love the Lord, and not
 only to love him, but an increaſe of Love to him hath
 been known, and this is that Love which thinks no
 evil, the Lord ſtill increaſe it, this bears all things,
 endures and ſuffers all things, this Love alſo edifies
 and will build you up as an holy Houſe, as you ſee
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the Increase of it ; this is that Love which the Apostle makes mention of, when he said, *As things we as Dogs and Dogs in comparison of the Riches of the Love of God, which hath been revealed and partaken of in this our Day, through Christ Jesus our Lord.* And now Dear Friends, my desire to the Lord on your behalf, is, that you may have the Benefit of those precious Promises, which are *Yea*, and *Amen*, unto the one Seed Christ Jesus, which will be as you find him raising that Birth in you, which *hunger and thirsts after Righteousness* : For such the Lord hath, and will fill with the Treasure of Wisdom, and they shall know the Mysteries of his Kingdom, and be fed with that Bread which comes down from Heaven ; and here you will feed together as harmless Sheep of one Pasture, and be nourished up in that innocent Life in which the Plant will grow, that the Lord's Right hand hath planted ; and here you will not only answer the good End of the Lord, but also the Care of your tender Parents ; which hath not only been concerned for you their Children, but also for the Honour of God and the Glory of his Power, which I have often heard many publickly desire, that this young Generation may come to witness the operating Virtue of it, to soften, tender, and mollifie their Heart ; that by the effectual working thereof, they may know that Contrition of Spirit, which the Lord never did, nor will despise : Friends, slight not the Love of God, because you have often and many frequent Tokens of it, but embrace it, and remember it is said, *Whilst it's called to Day, harden not your Hearts, lest a Night of Deprivation of these Mercies you now enjoy, should approach any of you* ; Dear Friends, the Love
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of God enlarges my Heart to you; the which I desire you may feel, to make room in you to receive; it will be your own Advantage, and a Cause of Joy and Comfort, to those whom the Lord hath made instrumental in his hand, to the begetting of you to himself, and here you will be in a living Capacity, to glorifie God your Maker; and much might be said for your Encouragement, but the Lord will not be wanting unto you, for his immediate Power will be present with you; as also many Instruments in his hand, whom he hath, and may make helpful to you; And thus dear Friends, the God of all our Mercies will be honoured, the Knowledge of his Truth still increased, and we together mutually comforted, which is the hearty Desire of your Friend and Sister,

ABIGAIL FISHER.

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